

coloured, the inner colourless and provided with the nuptial excrescences. This tortion, together with the extreme similarity of the four fingers, renders it difficult to decide, at a first glance, which of the digits are the pre-axial and which the post-axial. The colour of the upper parts is a uniform olive-brown, that of the lower a carneous white. The pupil, in a strong light, is vertically oval; the iris is much obscured by black pigment, except a narrow golden ring round the pupil. The web between the toes is transparent, with the veins forming beautiful arborescent purplish lines.

Mr. Boulenger intended to hand over the specimen to Prof. Howes, who, he hoped, would investigate the circulatory, muciferous, and urogenital systems. It was most desirable that such an examination should be made, as nothing was known of the soft anatomy of the *Dactylethridæ*.

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Prof. Flower exhibited and made remarks on a photograph of a specimen of Rudolphi's Whale (*Balænoptera borealis*), taken in the Thames near Tilbury, on the 18th October last. The sex had been ascertained to be male.

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A letter was read addressed to the Secretary by Dr. Emin Pasha, C.M.Z.S., dated Wadelai, April 15, 1887, referring to some collections sent to the British Museum, and offering some account of his observations on Natural History to the Society.

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The following papers were read:—

1. A List of the Reptiles and Batrachians collected by Mr. H. H. Johnston on the Rio del Rey, Cameroons District, W. Africa. By G. A. BOULENGER.

[Received June 30, 1887.]

1. RHAMPHOLEON SPECTRUM, Buchh.
2. UROBELUS GABONICUS, A. Dum.
3. DIPSADOBOA UNICOLOR, Gthr.
4. CORNUFER JOHNSTONI, sp. n.

Tongue with a conical papilla in the anterior part of the median line. Vomerine teeth in two slightly oblique series behind the line of the choanæ. Snout rounded, shorter than the diameter of the orbit; canthus rostralis obtuse; loreal region concave; nostril nearer the tip of the snout than the eye; interorbital space nearly as broad as the upper eyelid; tympanum half the diameter of the orbit. Digits terminating in triangular expansions, the diameter of which

is a little more than half that of the tympanum ; first finger shorter than second ; toes with a slight rudiment of web ; subarticular tubercles rather feeble, oval ; a single, oval, flat, inner metatarsal tubercle. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the tip of the snout. Skin granulate above and on the sides, smooth inferiorly ; scattered larger warts on the body. Grey-brown above, with dark brown spots on the head and body and cross bands on the limbs ; a broad, dark cross band between the eyes ; a dark brown streak from the nostril to the eye ; lower surfaces flesh-coloured.

From snout to vent 31 millim.

A single female specimen.

The discovery of a species of *Cornufer* in Africa is particularly interesting. Peters has, it is true, previously referred a West-African frog to this genus (*Petropedetes cameronensis*, Reich.) ; but on examination of the type specimens in the Berlin Museum I find that that species may best be referred to *Rana*, so far as I can judge without examining the pectoral arch. The toes are half-webbed and the web widely separates the outer metatarsals.

5. *BUFO TUBEROSUS*, Gthr.

6. *BUFO SUPERCILIARIS*, sp. n.

Crown without bony ridges ; sides of head nearly vertical ; snout very short ; upper eyelid with projecting angular edge, with a tendency towards developing a horn as in *B. ceratophrys*, Blgr. ; inter-orbital space flat, a little narrower than the upper eyelid ; tympanum small and very indistinct. First finger longer than second ; toes short, with a very short basal web ; subarticular tubercles simple ; two moderate metatarsal tubercles ; a tarsal fold. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the angle of the mouth. Upper parts smooth or with very small warts ; parotoids narrow and prominent, about as long as their distance from the nostril, tapering posteriorly to a point continuous with a dorso-lateral glandular ridge which is lost halfway down the side. Back and upper surface of head pale brownish, yellowish, or pink ; a dark, usually deep black, chevron-shaped marking between the eyes, pointing backwards ; sometimes one or two pairs of black spots on the back ; sometimes a very fine lighter vertebral line ; sides of head and body dark, grey or brown, forming a sharp contrast with the light colour of the upper parts ; the boundary between the two colours runs along the canthus rostralis, the edge of the upper eyelid, the parotoid, and the lateral fold ; limbs above grey or brown, with well-defined darker cross bands, which, on the foot, tarsus, inner side of tibia and front side of thigh, alternate with a whitish ground-colour ; hinder side of thighs, and sometimes also the flanks, bright crimson. Lower parts greyish, speckled with whitish ; lower jaw white-edged.

Many young specimens ; the largest measures 39 millim. from snout to vent.